



**FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE**

Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-89-195
Wednesday
11 October 1989

Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-*AFR*-89-195

CONTENTS

11 October 1989

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

De Klerk: Release of Security Prisoners Planned	1
Sisulu, Mpetha To Be Freed [SAPA]	1
Further Report [Johannesburg TV]	1
De Klerk Discusses Release [SAPA]	1
De Klerk Informs Thatcher [SAPA]	2
'Too Early' To Disclose Details [SAPA]	2
Various Reactions to Prisoner Release Noted	2
ANC Radio on Sisulu Release [Dar es Salaam International]	2
Transvaal Congress Applauds Release [SAPA]	3
Commentary Examines Release [Johannesburg Radio]	3
UDF, COSATU Laud Sisulu Release [SAPA]	4
Tutu, Boesak Welcome Release [SAPA]	4
Mandela: Own Release 'Not Issue' [Umtata Radio]	5
Release Said Not Due to Pressure [SAPA]	5
Buthelezi Welcomes Release [Johannesburg Radio]	5
De Klerk, Clergymen Begin Talks in Pretoria [SAPA]	5
ANC Denies Reports Official's Defection [SUNDAY TIMES 8 Oct]	5
More on Possible Defection Attempt [SAPA]	6
Missing Journalist Said 'Agent' [THE CITIZEN 10 Oct]	6
Portugal's Soares Holds Talks With De Klerk [Lisbon International]	7
De Klerk Views Upcoming Negotiating Process [Johannesburg International]	7
'Worst' of Foreign Capital Sanctions Over [Johannesburg Radio]	8
ANC Leader Tambo Discharged From Clinic [Maputo Radio]	9
6 Oct Press Review on Current Problems, Issues	9
7 Oct Press Review	10
9 Oct Press Review	10
10 Oct Press Review	12
11 Oct Press Review	13

De Klerk: Release of Security Prisoners Planned

Sisulu, Mpetha To Be Freed

MB1010180189 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1757 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Pretoria Oct 10 SAPA—State President F.W. de Klerk on Tuesday [10 October] night announced the unconditional release of eight "security prisoners" as soon as the "necessary formalities" had been dealt with.

Among those to be set free are Walter Sisulu and Oscar Mpetha.

Further Report

MB1010181489 Johannesburg Television Service
in English 1800 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] We have just heard that eight security prisoners are to be released unconditionally. The state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk, announced a few minutes ago that Messrs Japhtha Matsebula, Andrew Mhlangeni, Roman Mhlaba, Walter Sisulu, Elias Motsoeleli, Wilton Mokwaai, Ahmed Kathrada, and Oscar Mpetha were to be released as soon as the necessary formalities could be dealt with. The finalities, he said, could take some time.

Mr de Klerk said that in his first speech after taking office he had given the assurance that the release of security prisoners would be looked at on an ongoing basis. The test the government laid down in such cases was that all the surrounding circumstances should be considered. Good order should be maintained, and the search for peaceful solutions should preferably be promoted by such a release.

Mr de Klerk said that most of these prisoners had already served many years of their sentences and were advanced in years. He said Mr Nelson Mandela had been fully appraised of the proposed releases. Discussions had been held with him, and he confirmed yet again that his own release was not now on the agenda.

De Klerk Discusses Release

MB1010183389 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1831 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Pretoria Oct 10 SAPA—State President F.W. de Klerk on Tuesday [10 October] night announced the unconditional release of eight "security prisoners" as soon as the "necessary formalities" had been dealt with.

Among those to be set free are Walter Sisulu and Oscar Mpetha.

Sisulu, who is close to ANC [African National Congress] leader Nelson Mandela, has been behind bars for 26 years.

Mr de Klerk said in a statement made available to the SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION that, in his

first speech after he took office, "I gave the assurance that the release of security prisoners would be looked into on an ongoing basis".

He said the test which the government laid down in such cases is that, all the surrounding circumstances should be considered, good order should be maintained and the search for peaceful solutions should preferably be promoted by such a release.

"Within the following framework it has now been decided to release the following prisoners unconditionally as soon as the necessary formalities can be dealt with, which can take some time."

Those to be released are:

Japhtha Mesemula, Andrew Mlangeni, Raymond Mhlaba, Walter Sisulu, Elias Motsoaledi, Wilton Mkwayi, Ahmed Kathrada, and Oscar Mpetha.

Mr de Klerk said in the statement Mr Nelson Mandela was fully appraised of the proposed releases.

"In fact, discussions were held with him and he confirmed yet again that his release is not now on the agenda."

The statement says the decision to release the prisoners was preceded by a thorough investigation and a series of administrative processes.

"All relevant factors were brought into consideration, including the fact that most of these prisoners had already served many, many years of their sentences, and are already advanced in years.

"It was decided that, taking good order into account, a favourable climate currently exists in which the release can take place."

The decision had also been taken against the background of requests and representations from various sources over a long period, said Mr de Klerk in the statement.

"In particular, the views of moderate black leaders, including the leaders of the self-governing territories carried special weight," he said.

Mr de Klerk expresses the hope that the release of these prisoners will contribute to the spirit of reconciliation which is presently evident in the country.

"Most South Africans are tired of confrontation and wish to speak to one another about the road of prosperity and justice for all," he said in the statement.

"The search for peaceful solutions is the key to a safe future for South Africa and I make an appeal to all South Africans to become a part of this process."

De Klerk Informs Thatcher

*MB1010183889 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1830 GMT 10 Oct 89*

[Text] Pretoria, Oct 10, SAPA—State President F.W. de Klerk on Tuesday [10 October] personally conveyed the decision to release eight security prisoners to the British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who is attending the Conservative Party conference in Blackpool, a foreign affairs spokesman here said.

He said the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, had also conveyed the decision to the President of Portugal, Dr Mario Soares, shortly before his departure from Jan Smuts Airport to Lisbon on Tuesday night.

Mr Botha also telephonically conveyed the news to the U.S. secretary of state, Mr James Baker, and French President Francois Mitterrand.

'Too Early' To Disclose Details

*MB1110115689 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1109 GMT 11 Oct 89*

[Text] Pretoria Oct 11 SAPA—The South African Prison Services said on Wednesday it was too early to release details surrounding the release of eight security prisoners, including the secretary-general of the ANC [African National Congress], Mr Walter Sisulu.

SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reports the prisons statement said the release was governed by the conditions, needs and wishes of all the prisoners.

Various Reactions to Prisoner Release Noted**ANC Radio on Sisulu Release**

*EA1010194589 Dar es Salaam Radio Freedom
in English to South Africa 0415 GMT 10 Oct 89*

[Station commentary by (Patrick Sipatha)]

[Text] Compatriots, sons, and daughters of our motherland: We hear rumors and press reports that the racist regime is planning to release our leader, Walter Sisulu, and the veteran [United Democratic Front—UDF] leader, Oscar Mpetha. Reports say that De Klerk regime is responding to a request by Margaret Thatcher to release these two compatriots so as to convince the commonwealth summit in Malaysia that sanctions remain harmful for a political solution in our country. She will be able to say: Look, changes are under way in South Africa without imposing sanctions. Govan Mbeki was released without any pressure on the South African Government. Now Walter Sisulu and Oscar Mpetha have also been released. So there is no need for sanction. This would be her argument in the coming nonaligned summit [as heard].

She is well-known to us, we in the liberation movement, that she remains a spokeswoman of her husband, Mr

Thatcher, who owns large investments in our country. [sentence as heard] We are quite aware of the fact that she is not interested in the well-being of the Britons or South Africans but highly interested in safeguarding the interests of her only husband. We are aware of the fact that Mr Thatcher remains as conservative as ever on the questions of sanctions against the regime. The question of sanctions is a family affair in the Thatcher family, and now this family is coming with a token insult, that of releasing Walter Sisulu and Oscar Mpetha so as to dampen the spirit of sanctions.

The Government of Mrs Thatcher has emerged as the most intransigent opponent of the liberation movement in South Africa amongst the most reactionary nations of the world. Its role was clearly seen in the 1985 Commonwealth summit. It is only Britain—or rather let's say it is not only Britain—which is the strongest trading partner of the racists. We know of the role of the USA, France, West Germany, Japan, and many other nations. During the run-up to the commonwealth summit all countries calling on sanctions against the regime must bear in mind that it is not only the UK which continues to support our oppressors but other powerful nations, the USA in particular. These governments must at the end of that summit send messages to these governments and urge them to rethink a little.

This is the time to deal with South Africa. Problems of the world are being resolved in peaceful ways and South Africa should never be an exception in these world-wide peaceful methods of solving regional problems. Sanctions and only sanctions on the part of the international community can be regarded as the most peaceful way of solving or rather of assisting the solving of the South African question. We have made it clear on several occasions and in different fora that we do not anticipate that sanctions alone will bring the racist down to its knees. We have made it clear that sanctions coupled with mass action and the hammer of armed struggle will shorten the suffering of our people in the face of brutal repression.

The position of the ANC [African National Congress] on sanctions has not changed a little. We are still calling for more sanctions against the regime: that the package of sanctions (?passed by) the last Commonwealth meeting were not enough and that more should be added; that the countries involved should, amongst other things, rigorously enforce the existing arms embargo; that they refuse buying arms from the racist regime; that there should be no cooperation at all with the regime in the military sphere; that if they have any military attachment in South Africa this should be withdrawn immediately. There should be no cultural and scientific cooperation with the racist regime.

There must be a freeze on all sports contact as recently shown by the Wales Rugby Union, which has vowed not to go to South Africa and that all South African rugby teams should not be invited to Wales. There must be a prohibition of oil and coal exports to South Africa. There must also be a strict prohibition of exports of sensitive material destined for the South African police and military. There

must be no nuclear collaboration as was the case with West Germany. There must be, in short, cutting of all trade links with the racist government in Pretoria.

Compatriots, we know very well that some governments in the world today are interpreting our call for sanctions as a mere rhetoric and that such a measure is impossible to carry. We must call on workers in these countries to start acting against the wishes of the capitalists in their own countries. They must refuse to unload and load those goods in their airports, seaports, and railways destined to South Africa and from South Africa. Surely Margaret Thatcher cannot be expected to unload those goods if the workers of Britain refuse to do so.

This must be the same with workers in our country. We must wage relentless strikes against all monopoly industry which continue to move along racia lines. We must at all costs go on a spree of a sabotage campaign and attack all those who are refusing to join in our march for tougher sanctions against the regime. We must destroy all that represents the violation of human rights. We must repeat what we have done with Sasol, for they are still refusing to say "no" to racial segregation. Let all the workers in our country during this run-up to the Commonwealth summit say: Sanctions now, and stop (?swelling) our oppression. Let's take to the street in support of the Frontline States' call for more and tougher action against the racist authority. Let's enter the new year with deep and deeper crisis engulfing the racist economy.

This is the time to prove to the Thatcher government and those who support it that sanctions will never hurt the blacks and that sanctions will hurt only the capitalists in our country. Already we are suffering in the absence of sanctions against the regime. How will we suffer when these sanctions are implemented then? Rather than experiencing a long and continuous pain of suffering it is better to have a short pain that would quickly be healed tomorrow. During this run-up to the summit of the commonwealth we call on all progressive countries to intervene on behalf of the liberation movement in South Africa and press for more sanctions against the regime. Even if the UK refuses to endorse more sanctions. Let all those who have links with the racists break them and isolate Margaret Thatcher and her regime.

Long live the spirit of sanctions; long live the spirit of disinvestment; long live the South African Revolution; Patria o muerte, Venceremos. All power to the people.

Transvaal Congress Applauds Release

MB1010194789 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1938 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Johannesburg, Oct 10, SAPA—The Transvaal Indian Congress [TIC] has expressed "great joy" at the pending release of the eight security prisoners announced by President F.W. de Klerk on Tuesday night.

"We view this as a victory for the struggling masses of our country," the TIC said in a statement to SAPA.

The Congress expresses the hope this "historic event" will be accompanied by the release of Nelson Mandela and all other political prisoners and the return of exiles.

"We also hope that this will be followed by the unbanning of the African National Congress and all other banned organisations," said the statement.

"We await our leaders' return so that they will be able to take their rightful place in the struggle for national liberation and guide us all in establishing a just, democratic South Africa as espoused in the Freedom Charter."

Commentary Examines Release

MB1110061889 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 11 Oct 89

[Station commentary: "A Look at the Release of Eight Political Prisoners"]

[Text] Negotiation on a new political and constitutional dispensation has been set as a chief priority in the next 5 years of renewal and reform. With this in mind, President F.W. de Klerk, in reshuffling the cabinet, formed a strong negotiating team.

Dr Gerrit Viljoen, the minister who would be spearheading the negotiation effort has pinpointed as a prime requirement, the need to find an acceptable method of identifying black leaders other than those who have taken part in elections in the national states or in local government elections.

Among those who are presented as authentic black leaders are leaders of the African National Congress. Prominent among names mentioned in this regard are those of Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu. They, with six others, were sentenced at the Rivonia Trial in June 1964 to life imprisonment for conspiring to launch a general uprising in South Africa.

Last night it was announced that five of the Rivonia trialists are to be released along with three other security prisoners. With the earlier release of two other Rivonia trialists, Govan Mbeki and Denis Goldberg, only Nelson Mandela among those sentenced to life imprisonment in 1964 remains in prison.

It is clear that both humanitarian considerations and the requirements of law and order were taken into account in deciding on the release of the eight men. As far as law and order is concerned, the authorities had to be satisfied that this aspect will be safeguarded. Insofar as humanitarian considerations are concerned, the Rivonia trialists, for example, have spent more than 25 years in prison for their crime. They are no longer young men. Sisulu, for instance, is 77 and on occasion had to receive hospital treatment in recent years.

In addition to humanitarian considerations on the one hand and the imperative need to maintain law and order on the other, there is as well the need to look at the new horizons that have opened for South Africans and the

wish among the greater majority of South Africans, that the promise of those horizons should be translated into tangible factors.

The mood in the nation at large is indisputably for concrete reform leading to a new dispensation in which all South Africans can share power in a fair and equitable manner without oppression and discrimination. That goal, it is becoming increasingly clear, can only be achieved if there are negotiations by and between all authentic leaders who subscribe to those democratic and peaceful objectives.

Where Walter Sisulu and Oscar Mpethe and others are recognized by some communities in South Africa as their authentic leaders, and if they, too, subscribe to democratic and peaceful objectives, there is a need for them to be placed in a position where they can make a contribution to the debate on just how a future South Africa should look.

It is against this background that the release from prison of the eight security prisoners should be considered.

UDF, COSATU Laud Sisulu Release

*MB1110063889 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2145 GMT 10 Oct 89*

[Text] Johannesburg Oct 10 SAPA—The release of Walter Sisulu was a "massive victory" for the people of South Africa, the United Democratic Front and Congress of South African Trade Unions said in a joint statement issued to SAPA in Johannesburg on Tuesday night.

The statement said: "Our leaders will be reunited with their people and their families after a long and painful separation. Their release is also a victory for the international solidarity movement, the sanctions campaign and the campaign to isolate the regime.

"These are tried and tested leaders of our people. Through many long and lonely years they have remained unflinching in their refusal to be separated from the liberation movement and their people."

The statement said they would now take their "rightful place" at the head of the organisation and the South African people.

"While Mr Mandela says that his release is not on the agenda and he cannot plead for his own release, this has to be ensured by increased pressure from the mass of our people.

"Local and international pressure must be rapidly accelerated to secure the release of Mr Mandela and all other political prisoners, the unbanning of the ANC [African National Congress] and other organisations, the return of all exiles, the lifting of the state of emergency and the repeal of all repressive laws.

"Once this climate of free political activity had been created, Mr Sisulu, Mandela, (Oliver) Tambo and others

will be able to play a rightful role in bringing about a democratic transformation in our country," the statement said.

Tutu, Boesak Welcome Release

*MB1110064789 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2256 GMT 10 Oct 89*

[Text] Cape Town Oct 10 SAPA—The release of the eight political prisoners was welcomed at a rally at the university of the Western Cape Tuesday night by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Dr Allan Boesak—but in their address to the gathering of 4,000 people they also warned that "the battle continues" for the release of ANC [African National Congress] leader Nelson Mandela.

The archbishop told the meeting, chaired by attorney Mr Bulelani Ngcuka, that president F.W. de Klerk had been "forced to do it".

"We are pleased our leaders are out but not satisfied as many others remain behind apartheid's locked doors.

"What is the use of releasing them when we still have a state of emergency and when our organisations are still banned."

He said he would call for the lifting of the state of emergency, the unbanning of organisations and the release of political prisoners at his meeting with Mr de Klerk Wednesday [11 October].

Dr Boesak said the message he would carry to Mr de Klerk would be "the same one our people have been giving the government for so long now".

"Eight is not enough with detainees and political prisoners, including Nelson Mandela, still being held hostage."

He told the crowd they had "prepared the climate for the release of our leaders and this is just another step to Nelson Mandela marching out of Victor Verster".

UWC rector Prof Jakes Gerwel said the time was here to build on the principals for which the released prisoners had fought.

"We have not won the victory yet—but we are winning. We need now to protect the revolution and strengthen our struggle to advance democracy".

"Mama" Mfacu of the United Women's Congress said the meeting was called "to welcome our government. Although they are not here tonight we extend our warm welcome to them.

"We have been struggling for this day for a long time but we don't just want a few people to be released. Mr de Klerk must release all our people."

Mr Eugene Paramoer, of the National Education Crisis Committee, said the releases had come as a result of marches and other activities: "We have set our leaders free.

"We have been responsible for their release and will be responsible for the release of others".

Mandela: Own Release 'Not Issue'

*MB1110082789 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0600 GMT 11 Oct 89*

[Text] Nelson Mandela has confirmed his own release is not about to happen.

In a statement issued after the news of the releases, Mandela said his release is not an issue at this stage. He held an impromptu party at his prison house in Paarl with a small group of antiapartheid activists on hearing the news.

With them was Albertina Sisulu whose husband Walter, one of Mandela's closest friends is part of the release package. Albertina Sisulu is reported to be unable to control joy.

Release Said Not Due to Pressure

*MB1110095489 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0927 GMT 11 Oct 89*

[Text] Johannesburg Oct 11 SAPA—The Christian Peace and Reconciliation for South Africa Movement on Wednesday said State President F.W. de Klerk's release of eight political prisoners was not a result of pressure.

The movement's co-ordinator, Archbishop Mzilikazi Masiya, also the founder president of the Council for Apostolic and Zion Churches in Southern Africa, in a statement welcomed the move and said Mr de Klerk had been courageous by keeping "strongly and honestly to his resolve to release political prisoners in stages".

Mr de Klerk was not releasing the eight, including ANC [African National Congress] leader Walter Sisulu, because he was "bowing to so-called pressure".

People who regarded this "effort for peace and reconciliation" as a result of pressure diminished the importance of the move.

"It is my hope that people will realise that Mr F.W. de Klerk is doing this in line with his aim to work to make our country a peaceful one.

"Therefore, instead of reducing this to an insignificant action from his side and so-called 'victory' to 'pressure groups', may all the nation thank President de Klerk and encourage him to do more in leading our beautiful country towards peace and reconciliation."

Buthelezi Welcomes Release

*MB1110100389 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 11 Oct 89*

[Text] The KwaZulu chief minister, Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, has expressed his satisfaction at the government's decision to release eight security prisoners.

Dr Buthelezi arrived in South Africa this morning after talks with the British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, and members of her Conservative Party.

On his arrival, he reaffirmed his support for the British stand against sanctions and said the release of the prisoners, of whom five were sentenced at the Rivonia Trial, was good for South Africa, the government and the state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk.

Dr Buthelezi said he was sure that Mr de Klerk was keen to put negotiations on track.

De Klerk, Clergymen Begin Talks in Pretoria

*MB1110142489 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1412 GMT 11 Oct 89*

[Text] Pretoria Oct 11 SAPA—Historic talks started at the Union Buildings in Pretoria shortly after 3.30pm on Wednesday between the state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk, and three prominent South African anti-apartheid church leaders.

Before the talks started, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, archbishop of Cape Town; Rev Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches; and Dr Alan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, posed with Mr de Klerk and the minister of constitutional development and of national education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, for press photographers and cameramen.

The leaders greeted each other in a friendly fashion and proceeded to the venue for the talks in the state president's office.

The talks are scheduled to last between 45 minutes and an hour, after which a statement may be issued and press conferences held.

ANC Denies Reports Official's Defection

*MB0810100589 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES
in English 8 Oct 89 pp 1, 2*

[By David Jackson and Susan Denny]

[Excerpts] Runaway info girl Sue Dobson is linked through marriage to a prominent ANC [African National Congress] activist and his wife now living in exile in Britain. The connection came to light yesterday as the focus of new inquiries switched to Johannesburg computer expert Peter Dobson—who joined his journalist wife Sue in London last week after she suddenly quit the Government's Bureau for Information in Windhoek.

The riddle of Mrs Dobson's disappearance, amid reports that she may have "defected" to the Soviet Union, is being handled by Pretoria as a top-level security and diplomatic investigation.

It has also been revealed that she made telephone calls to her husband in Pretoria the night before she fled Windhoek.

Her husband, in his early 30's, is the brother-in-law of Jeremy Brickhill, a prominent ANC activist and former ZAPU [Zimbabwe African People's Union] military intelligence operative in Zimbabwe.

Brickhill and his then fiancée, Peter's sister and former Durban journalist Joan Dobson, fled South Africa in October 1974 after she refused to testify against leaders of the now banned SA [South African] Student Organization. [passage omitted]

Two years ago, the Brickhills and their two children settled in England after Jeremy and Joan were injured in a Harare car bomb blast.

ANC sources said yesterday that Jeremy Brickhill had "not contacted the London office" of the organisation since settling in Oxford, where he is a student. [passage omitted]

After speaking to his wife on the telephone that night, Mr Dobson left a Johannesburg dinner party without explanation and has not been seen since. In the early hours of Sunday, September 24, Mrs Dobson, on secondment from the Bureau of Information to the media section of the Administrator-General's office in Windhoek, left the house she was sharing with three colleagues.

She drove to the UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group] headquarters and, according to one source, spent the night at an UNTAG military base.

The next morning, at her request, UNTAG officials drove her to the Soviet observer mission in Windhoek, where she spent about two hours.

Soviet officials said later that Mrs Dobson seemed incoherent and confused and that they were unable to help her. [passage omitted]

Her parents, Mr and Mrs A.E. Millson of Waterkloof Glen, Pretoria, have had one phone call from their daughter since her departure.

"She said she was fine, but gave us no details," said a distressed Mr Millson yesterday.

"We have no idea where they are, or what made them leave. I believe Sue has suffered some kind of nervous breakdown. One thing is certain: She's not involved in anything political.

"She must be extremely troubled to have gone to London without warning and in such a roundabout way. She's never done anything like this in her life," said Mr Millson. [passage omitted]

Authoritative government sources said they were unsure whether Mrs Dobson had indeed defected or had been an ANC operative. It could also not be ruled out that she had suffered some form of nervous breakdown.

A spokesman for the ANC in London said the organisation had not been contacted by the Dobsons.

"If it were true that they had defected, we would be the first to capitalise on the publicity potential—and we certainly wouldn't be keeping quiet about it," he said. [passage omitted]

More on Possible Defection Attempt

MB0910122489 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1208 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] London, Oct 9, SAPA—The Soviet Embassy in London was incommunicative on Monday about reports that Mrs Sue Dobson, the former Bureau for Information staffer who disappeared on September 24 from her post in the administrator-general's office in Windhoek, had applied for political asylum.

A spokesman declined to make any comment on Mrs Dobson's whereabouts and said the embassy's press attache, Mr Anatoliy Danilitskiy, was "not available at this stage."

Mrs Dobson and her husband, who holds a British passport, are understood to be in English. [as received]

Commenting on reports she was an African National Congress [ANC] operative, a senior ANC spokesman in London said he had no knowledge of her whereabouts, adding she "is not on our records here."

According to reports, Mrs Dobson's father, Mr A.E. Millson of Pretoria, had confirmed his daughter told a Soviet official in Windhoek she was an ANC operative, but that he believed her claim was untrue.

A spokesman for the South African Embassy in London said it had no further information on Mrs Dobson, other than that contained in the Bureau for Information's official statement at the weekend, and media reports.

It has been pointed out in London that if Mrs Dobson was an agent, or even a member of the ANC, the organisation would have been quick to claim credit for her "defection" or "escape" in view of her secondment to the Namibian administrator-general's office in Windhoek and her likely access to confidential information.

Missing Journalist Said 'Agent'

MB1010093589 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN
in English 10 Oct 89 pp 1, 4

[By Tony Stirling]

[Text] Susan Dobson, the 26-year-old South African journalist who went missing from her Information Department post in South-West Africa last week, was

recruited as an intelligence agent by an officer of the South-West African Police (SWAPOL).

It was apparently an inability to handle the pressure of being an agent that caused her to switch allegiances and visit the Russian mission in Windhoek, before absconding to London via Botswana.

The officer who recruited her was a Chief Inspector of Police at Oshakati in northern South-West Africa. He is well-known in South African intelligence circles, and before becoming a member of SWAPOL was a member of the South African security police, his most recent activities in South Africa involving the guarding of foreign dignitaries.

According to THE CITIZEN's information, he met Mrs Dobson while a student at the University of the Witwatersrand, where he was then engaged in activities as a secret police agent on the campus.

It is understood that the SWAPOL officer concerned was immediately transferred from his post to another in the CID [Criminal Investigation Department] in Windhoek when details of his recruitment of Mrs Dobson became officially known, after she had left the territory.

Information received by THE CITIZEN suggests that Mrs Dobson had an emotional crisis because she was unable to cope with some of the assignments given to her by her handler, which in the first instance caused her visit the Russian mission in Windhoek.

Apparently, when the Russians were unable to offer her any direct assistance in Windhoek, she left South-West Africa under advice, and entered Botswana from where she made her way to London.

According to the latest available information, Mrs Dobson is staying Mrs Dobson is staying with her brother- and sisters-in-law in London, Jeremy and Joan Brickhill, who are well known ANC activists.

The Brickhills formerly ran an ANC [African National Congress] information office in Harare, Zimbabwe, and were injured a few years ago in a bomb blast at the centre housing the ANC information office where they worked.

Questions are now being asked in intelligence circles as to how Mrs Dobson, given her family connections and certain other factors relating to her background, could have been regarded as suitable material for recruitment as an agent and could have passed through the security clearances required for her job.

All sources of intelligence point to the level of intelligence to which Mrs Dobson might have had access as low level, restricted to inter-departmental meetings and briefings, including some by the military.

The biggest embarrassment she could cause would probably be to expose details of her recruitment and activities as a

SWAPOL agent used to spy on SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] elements in South-West Africa.

Portugal's Soares Holds Talks With De Klerk

LD0910214189 Lisbon Radio Renascenca in Portuguese to Europe 1800 GMT 9 Oct 89

[Text] The president of the Republic is still in South Africa observing the evolution of his son's condition—which showed marked improvement—in the hospital in Pretoria.

Today Mario Soares opened a political parenthesis in his private stay to meet the South Africa president. This report from our Johannesburg correspondent Maria de Lurdes Torcato:

[Torcato] President Mario Soares and South Africa's State President Frederik de Klerk had talks today at the government's guest house in Pretoria. Officials stressed the informal nature of the meeting. Speaking briefly to the media afterwards, De Klerk said that he had explained to the Portuguese president his policy and his vision for South Africa, his country's international position, and the situation in Angola and Mozambique. Dr Mario Soares replied that he would convey what he had been told to the leaders of the EEC governments, and in particular to the president of France, which he will be visiting officially soon.

Mario Soares also stressed the importance to Portugal of the two Lusophone countries of the region, Angola and Mozambique, which the president of the republic described as our sister countries.

Mario Soares also thanked the South African authorities for the treatment accorded his son who is still recovering in the intensive care unit of Hendrik Verwoerd hospital in Pretoria.

President Soares stated that De Klerk spoke to him in the language of frankness and friendship, and that, aware of the complexity of the situation in South Africa, he would not presume to come here and comment on it. De Klerk himself told reporters that Dr Mario Soares had in no way sought to prescribe a course of action for South Africa. He said that although solutions must be found domestically, South Africa does not live in a vacuum and it is important to break out of its international isolation, De Klerk added.

De Klerk Views Upcoming Negotiating Process

MB1010150289 Johannesburg International Service in English 1115 GMT 10 Oct 89

[From the "Africa South" program]

[Text] The African National Congress [ANC] is seeking to obtain maximum international support for its supposed platform on any future negotiations on South Africa's constitutional development. In an exclusive

interview [date, place not given] President de Klerk was asked if this could lead to a sort of Resolution 435 for South Africa:

[Begin recording] [De Klerk] It would be absolutely unacceptable for the government if the solution of South Africa is to internationalized in such a manner. South Africa is not Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe. South Africa is not South-West Africa. South Africa is not a colony on the threshold of receiving its independence; it is an independent recognized state with a valid and a legal government. Therefore, in the case of South Africa, the solution must be found in South Africa by South Africans. International interference is unacceptable to the Republic of South Africa.

[Unidentified correspondent] There President Bush and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher are almost at wavelengths over the issue of the release of security prisoners. When can we expect your government here to deal with this issue?

[De Klerk] I have stated in my inaugural speech that we are constantly reviewing the position of security prisoners. Within the framework of the policy announced some time ago by my predecessor, we look at all surrounding circumstances. We must obviously bear in mind the interest of law and order in the country. And when the release of a prisoner can make a contribution, if one could add that, can make a contribution towards peaceful solutions, then obviously it is in the best interests, not only of the person but of the country to have that done. We are prepared to do so within the framework which I have just sketched.

[Correspondent] If we look at what happened in most of southern African countries, does this suggest that South Africa needs a broker for political settlement?

[De Klerk] No, I don't think so, because what has happened in the rest of southern Africa is that we are dealing with countries which were, and in some instances are, not independent. And then, yes, I can see the need for a broker. South Africa itself is playing the role of one of the brokers in South-West Africa/Namibia. But in the case of South Africa? South Africa is an independent country, comparable with Britain and France and West Germany. If they have internal problems, they don't make use of a broker, they solve the problems amongst themselves; and I sincerely believe in the capacity of South Africans, all South Africans, to find a solution amongst themselves, if there is the will.

And on the government's side, there is the will to do so. To internationalize our position would be to imperil the integrity of South Africa's independence, and the government is not prepared to do so.

[Correspondent] America has recently said South Africa is given a period of about 9 months within which to start negotiating, or else effective and severe sanctions will be considered. What is your reaction?

[De Klerk] My reaction is that for anybody to try and put an exact time schedule on a negotiation process is very unwise, because negotiation in essence means that there are more parties concerned than just one or two. Negotiation in the South African situation means that we have a long way to go.

Secondly, I dislike being prescribed to by any country. South Africa must find a timetable, and I immediately say time is of the essence. The government wants to move as quickly as possible, but to be overhasty would also be wrong. Every step which we take in this process which have started must be a step which has been thoroughly thought through and which can stand the test of time. I hope that we can move in months towards an improved situation. Towards real negotiation, not because America tells me to do so, but because time is of the essence. But really, for anyone to permit himself to a time schedule would be extremely dangerous. [end recording]

'Worst' of Foreign Capital Sanctions Over

MB1010072489 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] Negotiations are currently being held by South Africa's debt standstill committee on how the country's debt position should be handled when the present interim arrangement with creditors expires in June. The committee—headed by the governor of the Reserve Bank, Dr Chris Stals—and the creditors have so far been able to keep politics out of this particular issue, and the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, believes that there is no reason why this should not continue to be the case.

Mr du Plessis has suggested that tying the debt rescheduling to any political issue such as reform in South Africa does not make sense for either party.

South Africa's total foreign debt amounts to some 21 billion dollars. While this does not show a dramatic decline compared with the situation in 1985, when the debt standstill had to be introduced, it should be borne in mind that much of the debt was in currencies other than the dollar—and the dollar itself has been declining against those currencies. There has, in fact, been a substantial repayment of the initial 10 billion dollars that had been caught in the so-called "net"—in other words, subject to South African controlled repayment—only about 8 billion dollars remains. It is only this portion of the 21 billion dollars of foreign debt that is being discussed in the latest round of negotiations.

A large part of South Africa's debt has, in fact, been moved out of the net of short-term credit and, under a provision in the standstill agreement, converted into longer-term loans. The discussion about the handling of the 8 billion dollars is described as purely technical and cannot be subjected to any conditions that may be desired by the political activists.

South Africa—unlike many other debtor nations—is not seeking debt forgiveness but is, in fact, negotiating payment to her creditors. As Dr Stals has pointed out, it would be illogical for bankers to refuse to negotiate on the repayment of money owed to them.

On an economic basis, there appears at least to be some reassessment of the whole question of financial sanctions against South Africa. As Mr du Plessis has pointed out, South Africa has survived 4 years without an international banker—and the economy can still show positive growth, albeit at too low a rate to satisfy employment demands. It is clearly too early to expect a reversal of foreign capital availability to South Africa. At the very least, however, there could be an easing of capital outflow.

This, coupled with a more comfortable stance by foreign investors in the light of reform and negotiation, means that there is every reason to believe that the worst of the bite of foreign capital sanctions may be behind us.

ANC Leader Tambo Discharged From Clinic

MB1010190689 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1730 GMT 10 Oct 89

[Text] Tom Sebina, spokesman for the African National Congress [ANC] of South Africa, said in Lusaka yesterday that ANC President Oliver Tambo has already been discharged from a London clinic, and that Tambo is in good health.

He said Tambo was in good health but will remain in London for a complete recovery. The ANC president has been in London since last August for a prolonged rest after suffering from fatigue.

6 Oct Press Review on Current Problems, Issues

MB0610131489

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Sisulu, Mpetha Release—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 6 October in its page 6 editorial says if Walter Sisulu, former African National Congress (ANC) general secretary, and Oscar Mpetha, former United Democratic Front (UDF) president, are released before the Commonwealth meeting "that should not be because Mrs Thatcher wants it, but because the time has come for them to be freed. If Mrs Thatcher wants to regard their release as her triumph, that's her indaba. There is enough that has happened that should convince Mrs Thatcher that Mr de Klerk is a sincere reformist who intends to make dramatic changes." If Thatcher needs "evidence to present to the Commonwealth meeting, then she will find it in Mr de Klerk's utterances and his allowing of protest marches, a consumer boycott, beach demonstrations and other acts of defiance without clamping down harshly on the organisers and protesters."

THE STAR

Black Housing Project Praised—"Political reform aside, there could be no better way to start building a new South Africa than by accepting the challenge symbolised by the bricklayer's hod," asserts the Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 6 October in a page 10 editorial. The shortage of black housing "is one of the country's major socio-economic problems which the Government has failed to tackle." "It is claimed to be a breakthrough that should have a dramatic effect. Certainly the prospects are encouraging." The plan "may turn out to be a pallbearer at the funeral of that iniquitous and progress-retarding" Group Areas Act.

Democrats Need Single Leader—"The Democratic Party must finally look its leadership problems in the eye," asserts THE STAR in a second editorial on the same page. While the "troika has so far worked better than anyone expected," "at the party's congress in Durban tomorrow, a democratic process needs to come up with a single leader. As things stand there seems little doubt it will be Dr Zach de Beer." Deferring the decision "would be unwise, particularly with the hurly-burly of a parliamentary session looming."

BUSINESS DAY

Low-Cost Housing Program Welcomed—"The extraordinary creativity displayed by the Urban Foundation in putting together a potential fund of R3bn [3 billion rand] for low-cost housing stands in stark contrast to the destructiveness of the sanctions campaign and all its ramifications," observes a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 6 October. By associating themselves with this fund foreign governments like Britain, Germany, and Switzerland, have "joined in an undertaking that is both humane and politically important."

RSA Must 'Influence' Savimbi Into Peace Settlement—A second editorial on the same page remarks: "Luanda, almost as scarred by war and misfortune as Mozambique, is ready to forge a new relationship with South Africa but Savimbi—armed by the Americans—stands astride this possibility. South Africa may greatly advance its own interests in the region if it uses its influence to bring Savimbi into a settlement with Luanda—before the renewed Angolan war destroys all prospects of regional compromise."

SOWETAN

ANC Not Talking to Black Liberation Movements—Joe Thloloe writes in his "Political Perspective" column on page 7 of Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 6 October that "there is a very serious exchange of information between the South African Government and the ANC, even if the mechanics of this exchange remain unclear. You will probably recall that the ANC/UDF/COSA/ITU [African National Congress/United Democratic Front/Congress of South African Trade Unions] discussion paper on negotiations said that

Sisulu was likely to be released shortly after the elections and before Nelson Mandela?" But Thloloe points out that the ANC is having a series of meetings, including one with "a party of 100 Afrikaner women." The "irony" is that "we have not heard of the ANC talking to the Pan-Africanist Congress or to the Black Consciousness Movement of Azania. Is talking to the Broederbond [Afrikaner brotherhood] more important than talking to other parties in the liberation movement?"

NEW NATION

Editorial Tries To Justify Protest Marches—Johannesburg NEW NATION in English for 6-12 October in its page 6 editorial says there has recently been "criticisms and allusions to the 'uselessness' of the protest marches" which NEW NATION believes are a "lame attempt to justify non-participation in the struggle for change." The marches are "mobilising points for the people, and must be understood within the context of the unfolding dynamic of mass collective action."

THE WEEKLY MAIL

State 'More Willing' for Others To End Apartheid—"F.W. de Klerk's government may not be keener to end apartheid than its predecessors—but it does seem more willing to let others do it for them," writes Steven Friedman in his "Worm's Eye" column on page 16 of Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English for 6-12 October. "The apparent education policy changes announced by white 'own affairs' minister Piet Clase last week illustrates this point." "Getting the government to close under-used white schools and allow them to re-open as private non-racial institutions has been a key goal of groups committed to non-racial education for some time." Friedman also notes that the government "obviously believes that reacting to events is less risky than initiating change. But, by choosing to react rather than reform, it is surrendering the right to set the agenda for change to its opponents. It is also conceding an opportunity to them—to win changes for which they can claim credit, thus strengthening their power base. If they use the opportunity, campaigning against segregation in cities could become an important source of power for anti-apartheid movements."

7 Oct Press Review

MB0710094289

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Black Housing Plan Praised—The new low-cost housing plan "is an impressive project by any standards," and "one that deserves the very highest commendations," writes the Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 7 October in a page 6 editorial. "This is a welcome change from debilitating sanctions, and is the kind of positive action that helps to ameliorate conditions for Blacks instead of harming them." "Black advancement and empowerment have become notable features of foreign government

involvement in South Africa. We may feel at times that this is being overdone—and it may, in fact, be a kind of racialism in reverse, with foreign governments, for their own political and domestic purposes, concentrating on Black needs rather than on the needs of the country as a whole. Nevertheless, when it comes to education, housing and similar essential aspects of life, whatever contributions foreign governments make are welcome."

THE STAR

Open Pools 'Anticlimax'—Harvey Tyson, in his "Undercurrent Affairs" column on page 10 of the 7 October Johannesburg SATURDAY STAR in English writes: "Johannesburg has shown that while many people are fearful of change, when it is finally recognised, it is almost an anti-climax. For instance, swimming pools were such a bastion of psychological apartheid that segregation laws were never even required. Now that the swimming pools are open to all people, the shock to sheltered whites is proving to be no worse than a quick dip on a cold day."

Bad Laws Affect Police Image—"Let me own up immediately: I like policemen," declares Joe Latakomo in his "Write On!" column on the same page. "There are many times you wish a policeman would turn up and save you." "But the fundamental reason why the police are perceived to be the enemies of the nation (don't rush off a telex demanding a "correction", Major Staedler) is simply because they are the people who have to make sure unpopular laws are obeyed." "The laws of the country have virtually made the police believe that they are above the law. In unrest situations, journalists have to 'remove' themselves from the scene, lest they feel tempted to report on possible police excesses." "The point is that the police have a problem. They have to make sure bad laws are obeyed. Therefore, only the Government can make sure that we get to a situation where we have a professional police force—well trained and focusing on the generally accepted role of a police force."

9 Oct Press Review

MB0910105689

[Editorial Report]

SUNDAY STAR

Concerted Urban Planning Urged—The low-cost housing plan "is one of the most welcome announcements in years," states the Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English on 8 October in its page 12 editorial, in discussing the 6 October talks between the minister of planning and provincial affairs and the mayor of Soweto, states: "Our country is experiencing an unstoppable process. People are trekking into the cities on an unprecedented scale. Unless we adopt a comprehensive national regional urbanisation strategy, blacks and whites alike will be overcome by chaotic city life, urban poverty, and even disease." Until now, the government

has "dumped" management responsibility on black local authorities, who "were foisted on their communities without consultation and as a result have virtually no credibility. Under-resourced in revenue and expertise terms, it is ludicrous to expect these authorities to ably respond to urbanisation problems that have the world's experts stymied." "The problems and the challenges of urbanisation must be shared to achieve success. The way the Government tackles the issue now will decide whether crisis management or courageous leadership becomes the order of the next decade."

SUNDAY TIMES

Improved Housing of 'Fundamental Political Importance'—"A nation that is decently housed, fed and employed is more likely to be happy and stable than a nation of homeless, hungry and jobless. This simple truth is what makes the Urban Foundation's R3-billion [3-billion-rand] assault on South Africa's housing problems of fundamental political importance," notes the Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English on 8 October in a page 24 editorial. "The involvement of European governments, albeit token, is another beneficial political spin-off. Instead of sniping from the wings like so many of our critics, Britain, West Germany and Switzerland can now point to the 40,000 houses they will be helping to build as bricks-and-mortar evidence of their sincere wish to help South Africa's peaceful transformation. One hopes that the Commonwealth anti-brigade, soon to gather in Kuala Lumpur, will take note."

THE CITIZEN

Troika Reflects Division, Not Unity—"The Democratic Party, to which the Progressive Federal Party brought the main dowry in funds and organisation, has been hijacked by Dr Denis Worrall and Mr Wynand Malan," asserts the Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 9 October in its page 6 editorial. "If there had been one leader, it would have been Dr de Beer, but that would have meant the ambitious Dr Worrall would have had to play second fiddle to Dr de Beer—and Mr Malan, who has nothing to offer except his palsy-walsiness with the African National Congress and its fronts, would have held no major position at all." "Keeping Dr Worrall and Mr Malan in the co-leadership, however, is not going to end the divisions within the party as reflected at the congress." "Having three leaders is not a sign of pending unity but of continuing division."

THE STAR

Angolan Invasion 'Disaster'—"At last, the Defence Force has permitted the telling of an inside story of South Africa's invasion of Angola," states the Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 9 October in a page 10 editorial. "The operation was an imperialistic, logistic disaster." "It prolonged a struggle that continues, neither side able to win or willing to lose. It was smothered in duplicity. And it was self-defeating." "By chance, the invasion story became available in the same week that the Minister of Defence warned the military that they

would have to modify attitudes." "Africa was entering an era of negotiation. Would that it had begun sooner."

New Presidential Style Commended—"Already the new head of state is shedding the trappings his predecessor built round the office," observes a second editorial on the same page. "Commendably, Mr de Klerk wants to project himself as a leader more akin to a company chief executive rather than some pseudo-monarch. He wants to be closer to the people. Imperial pomp and ceremony work well only in countries where they are built on long tradition, not some individual's whims."

BUSINESS DAY

Educational Reform Needed—"The key to long-term, durable change in this country lies in educational reform. Our educational system should, ideally, embody the ways individuals and groups of individuals want to live together, now and in the future. It should create possibilities, not close them off," opines the Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 9 October in a page 6 editorial. "The country's educational system has done much to entrench group antagonism: It has been a force for segregation and suspicion, rather than reconciliation." However, the government is recognizing that "an adequate educational system will ultimately depend on greater exercise of choice and responsibility" by individuals. "It's grounds for hope."

Miners' Deserve Recognition—"Beneath the hard, profit-driven, cold exterior of this newspaper beats a sentimental heart that sympathises with the mineworkers' argument that they, rather than Cecil Rhodes and Barney Barnato and their descendants, should be the focus of the centenary celebrations of the Chamber of Mines," states a second editorial on the same page. The work was done by "the hard, brave men of all races and tongues who couldn't get past the doorman." "If the miners are to march through Johannesburg, shouldering shovels and charging sticks, we shall contribute a discreet, middle-class cheer."

SOWETAN

Police Watch Prayer Service—A Prayers for the Nation service was held at a Methodist Church in Soweto on 8 October, reports the Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 9 October in a page 6 editorial. The people "prayed for peace and reconciliation, prayed for unity, prayed for 'a South African nation that will emerge only after liberation.' The irony of the service is that the State would not let the congregation to pray with out supervision." Police "hovered around the church hall. This at a time when State President F.W. de Klerk is talking reform and more open society."

RAPPORT

U.S. Set 'Unrealistic Reform Goals'—"The U.S. insistence on the achievement of what are certainly unrealistic reform goals 'within 9 months, or else...' will once again bring home to us how pressure on South Africa is

increasing rather than decreasing," comments the Johannesburg **RAPPORT** in Afrikaans on 8 October in a page 29 editorial. We cannot bow to foreign pressure because "the government would not like the impression to take root that it will allow a reform timetable to be forced upon it," and because "the reform process develops a dynamic of its own." "The meddlesome Yanks cannot make the process take place faster than South Africans themselves can do it. Nor can rightwing pressure stop what has already been started. Hopefully we South Africans will increasingly recognize that reform is an expression of an unavoidable historical course of events. Very little can be achieved in 9 months; but there is much that could have been achieved in the past 9 years or so." "In the next 9 years, we will progress faster than in the past 9 years; indeed, we will have to progress faster. Not because the Yanks say so, but because we ourselves want to speed up a newer and more wholesome society."

Government, ANC Need Mediators—"Is it possible to get white and black South Africans together for constitutional negotiations without the mediation of a third party to act as referee and messenger?" asks Piet Muller in a **RAPPORT** article on the same page. "Black leaders in particular have in the past found it very difficult to negotiate with the government because of indirect pressure on them by the African National Congress [ANC]. Hence the demand that Mr Nelson Mandela first be released—something which could indefinitely postpone the need to make contact with the government. The ANC, too, has its problems. Many egos and careers are involved in the movement. If a settlement was reached overnight through dialogue, many people would be left without work or influence. One can therefore accept that great pressure will be generated from within the ANC not to touch negotiations too soon." "The average blacks have not been psychologically prepared for a negotiated settlement, because the leaders who ought to have prepared them landed behind bars one by one. Today's visible leaders are either union leaders or clerics who do not have the necessary legitimacy to seek political compromises on behalf of their supporters." "We will have to release recognized leaders from jail as soon as possible—and here one is not talking about the older generation of leaders like Mssrs Mandela and Sisulu, who are symbolic rather than practicing leaders." President de Klerk's negotiators will also need "reliable messengers to carry messages behind the scenes to the various leaders."

10 Oct Press Review

MB1010125689

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Apartheid 'Dying'—Johannesburg **THE CITIZEN** in English on 10 October in its page 6 editorial says: "Whether some Whites like it or not, a new South Africa is dawning—a South Africa in which people of colour walk tall, whose economic advancement is assured, whose place in South Africa as citizens is recognised.

Apartheid is dying and the Right will never be able to resurrect it. The Black man is coming into his own and will never be subjected again to pass laws, influx control or any of the other monstrosities of apartheid."

THE STAR

Mozambican Refugees Need 'Compassion'—Johannesburg **THE STAR** in English on 10 October in a page 10 editorial refers to the "wave of refugees" entering the country from Mozambique, saying: "South Africa, the richest country in the region, simply tries to deter these unwelcome visitors. And, to our shame, many have been exploited and betrayed by employers ready to use their services but less willing to pay for them. The time has come to heed the cry for help. Neither electric fences nor border patrols have stopped the tide. Strong-arm tactics have failed. Instead of turning our backs on these unfortunate neighbours, we should be working to ease their suffering. Compassion is what is most needed now."

TRANSVALER

Editorial Compares Bush, Reagan Sanctions Position—U.S. President Bush's "view that punitive sanctions are not advisable at this stage and that South Africa must be given a chance to find a solution to its problems, is almost a repeat of the Reagan philosophy," remarks a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg **TRANSVALER** in Afrikaans on 4 October. "Fortunately, the by now familiar actions of Mr de Klerk assist Mr Bush in his opinion about punitive sanctions. Without having to suffer for our options on own decision-making, South Africa will have to continue on this path. We will have to do our own thing—and there is a great deal that still needs to be done—so that we can, in a manner, influence decisions in London and Washington. Naturally that requires sacrifices, but if we want to remain part of the greater world we have no other choice."

'Resentment' Over Reform Prescriptions—"Prescriptions from abroad, together with a time schedule for the implementation of reform, rightly creates resentment in conscientious South Africans," observes Johannesburg **TRANSVALER** in Afrikaans on 5 October in a page 10 editorial. "The U.S. Government has given South Africa, according to reports, 9 months to implement important reforms. If not the U.S. Congress will have to "rethink" the wait-and-see policy it is maintaining with regard to South Africa." **TRANSVALER** says "Americans should note that steps taken in South Africa are not taken because the country is driven into a corner. The South African Government recognizes the urgency of the situation. As a matter of fact, Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha, explained this clearly in a statement that the government must move forward urgently, irrespective of world opinion."

State Waits for 'Appropriate' Time for Mandela Release—Johannesburg **TRANSVALER** in Afrikaans on 6 October says in a page 8 editorial that "in relation to Nelson Mandela's release, people are busy opening doors

that are already open. For a long time it has been clear the government is waiting for the appropriate moment to release him. Those people who are pressuring the government to have released Mandela already yesterday, should keep this in mind. They should also keep in mind that the release of the most popular prisoner in the world holds some risks for the government, and no one can predict what their consequences will be."

11 Oct Press Review

MB1110122689

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

RSA Must Not 'Capitulate' to Foreign Demands—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 11 October in its page 6 editorial observes "the latest suggestions are that the U.S. will link up with Russia in imposing sanctions." THE CITIZEN doesn't believe South African can be "brought to its knees by sanctions, even if the United States does agree to tougher measures. Although sanctions harm the country, especially its growth, they do not cripple it." The paper further points out that the African National Congress (ANC)-SA [South African] Communist Party alliance "beholden to the Soviet Union, will favour the Russians ahead of the Americans if the alliance achieves its objectives. Meanwhile, South Africa has no reason to panic—and it certainly has no reason to capitulate to the demands for change within a specified time."

THE STAR

Democratic Party Troika 'Cannot Last Forever'—"By a somewhat curious process of reasoning, the Democratic Party has convinced itself that it is better off with three leaders rather than one," observes Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 11 October in a page 18 editorial. THE STAR believes the "troika leadership cannot last forever." "If it fails to provide unequivocal standpoints, if it allows itself to disintegrate in a welter of internal conflicts and compromises, it will have betrayed not just itself but all those who look to it for beacons on the road to a democratic South Africa. An early test for the troika will come when Parliament reassembles. Opponents will work hard to exploit and exacerbate the differences that clearly exist."

BUSINESS DAY

Monetary, Fiscal Authorities 'Cohesiveness'—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 11 October in a page 8 editorial comments on Reserve Bank Governor Chris Stals's action to increase the bank rate,

saying it "confirms the new spirit pervading the Bank's monetary management: it is decisive and prompt; there has probably never been more single-mindedness of purpose and cohesiveness between monetary and fiscal authorities than since the election." "It would be fitting if in the next five years Stals and Du Plessis [Finance Minister] were to establish a monetary and fiscal regime marked by tight money and low taxes—and if De Klerk's political reforms were to restore health to the capital account."

May Workers' Day Welcomed—The government's decision to accept 1 May as Workers' Day is "a welcome show of good sense on the vexed matter of public holidays," remarks a second editorial on the same page. "Employers have to come to terms with workers over the special status of days like June 16 and March 21, and there should be no further labour disruptions in May."

BEELD

U.S. Reform Deadline—Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 5 October writes in a page 10 editorial: "It is not unexpected that the U.S. imposed a deadline for far-reaching reforms in South Africa. For the rest of the world, Washington's audacity as self-appointed judge of other countries is no longer strange. The Americans are forever prescribing for other governments." "However, the good news is that there are signs in Congress of much goodwill."

Thatcher's Does RSA 'Homework'—Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 9 October comments in a page 10 editorial: "Mrs Margaret Thatcher over the past months set an example for other world leaders on doing their homework with regard to South Africa. She met a broad spectrum of leaders from the Republic. In some cases she mainly used the opportunity to listen. In other cases she conveyed her views to the South African press so that the Republic would be properly informed of her motives. Whatever decisions Mrs Thatcher in the future makes on South Africa—the Commonwealth summit is just around the corner—she cannot be accused of not having listened and learned."

DIE BURGER

Editorial on President Bush, Sanctions—Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans on 4 October says in a page 16 editorial: "President Bush not only realizes that more sanctions will not lead to a solution for South Africa's problems, but apparently also that the country should be allowed to find its own way." "Whether Congress will display the same measure of reasonableness as President Bush is uncertain, but at least the president proved that he will not be drawn in by the parroting of the sanction mongers."

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

12 OCT. 89

